

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the subject application is earnestly solicited.

Claims 250 through 254, 258, 261, 262, 265 through 278, 281, 283 through 285, and 290 through 316 are pending, with Claims 250, 261, 262, 266, 269, 270, 271, 281, 290, 296, 297, 299, 302, 303, 304, 312, and 316 being independent. Claim 290 has been amended.

STATEMENT OF SUBSTANCE OF INTERVIEW

Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for the courtesies extended in granting and conducting on May 17, 2007, a telephonic interview with Applicant's representative. During the interview, Applicant's representative and the Examiner discussed the proposed interference with U.S. Patent No. 6,547,187 B2 ("Foster '187"). In particular, Applicant's representative reiterated Applicant's request for an interference with Foster '187.

COMMENT REGARDING AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.312

Applicant's representative and the Examiner also discussed a proposed amendment to Claim 290 to delete inadvertently duplicative text, and Applicant understands that the Examiner is in tentative agreement that the amendment will be entered. The amendment is respectfully submitted not to entail a substantial amount of additional work on the part of the Patent and Trademark Office. MPEP 714.16. Favorable consideration and entry hereof is respectfully requested.

STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 41.202

The following table shows how Claims 250 through 254, 258, 261, 262, 265 through 278, 281, 283 through 285, and 290 through 316 have been copied in modified form from Claims 1 through 7, 9, 13, 15, 16, and 18 through 30 of U.S. Patent No. 6,547,187 B2 (“Foster ‘187”):

TABLE

subject application claims	<u>Foster</u> '187 claims
250, 290	1
251, 274, 291, 307	2
252, 275, 292, 308	3
253, 276, 293, 309	4
254, 277, 294, 310	5
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258, 278, 295, 311	13
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	16
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261, 296	18

subject application claims	<u>Foster</u> '187 claims
262, 281, 297, 312	19
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	21
265, 283, 298, 313	22
266, 299	23
267, 284, 300, 314	24
268, 285, 301, 315	25
269, 302	26
270, 303, 316	27
271, 304	28
272, 305	29
273, 306	30

CONCLUSION REGARDING INTERFERENCE

Applicant has copied the claims from Foster '187 for the purpose of provoking an interference. Support for the copied claims and the identification of a proposed count for the interference will be submitted in a separate Request for Interference which will be filed in due course should the Examiner wish.

REQUEST FOR EXPEDITED CONSIDERATION

Since a Notice of Allowance has issued, Applicant requests that the Examiner enter this paper and reconsider the proposed interference as soon as possible.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should be directed to the address listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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